

**Wally  
Herger**  
Congressman

**2nd District - California**



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## **Congress Reaffirms Commitment to the Mission in Iraq**

**(WASHINGTON, D.C.) - Congress today overwhelmingly rejected calls to immediately withdraw U.S. troops from Iraq. The resolution was considered after a representative yesterday called for the "immediate redeployment of U.S. troops (out of Iraq)." The resolution afforded representatives the opportunity to go on the record to either align with the argument that the U.S. military's participation in Iraq should be promptly terminated, or to express that service members should remain in Iraq until the mission is complete. Herger had the following reaction to the defeat of this resolution:**

"I strongly opposed this resolution, because our nation must continue to firmly support our men and women in uniform and their critical mission in Iraq," Herger stated. "It is critical for our nation to fight this war abroad rather than on American soil. Instead of cutting and running, which would signal to terrorists that America has lost her resolve, I believe it is absolutely essential to complete and win this critical battle in the War on Terrorism.

"I respect the right of every American to disagree with the policies of our government," continued Herger. "But removing American forces from Iraq at this time would represent a serious setback for American security, and would be devastating to the people of the newly democratic Iraq. Rather than having a liberated Iraq shining as a beacon of freedom and democracy in the region, terminating our mission now would allow the murderous terrorists an easy path to power in the heart of the Middle East, thereby weakening the security of America and our allies."

Herger concluded, "Now is not the time to embolden the enemy. Instead, now is the time for the American government and people to reaffirm their strong support for the American troops and their noble efforts in Iraq. Defeat of this resolution made clear that terminating this mission would be a terrible mistake and devastating to the morale of the brave men and women who are working and sacrificing to make America more secure."

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